## AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

 (currently amended) Soft and flexible surgical soft tissue mesh comprising polyethylene yams, wherein

the polyethylene yarns

- have a tensile strength of more than 1.0 GPa, determined as specified in ASTM D885M using a nominal gauge length of <u>a fiber</u> the fibre of 500 mm and a crosshead speed of 50%/min, and
- (ii) consist of polyethylene with a relative viscosity of more than 5 dl/g as measured on a solution of polyethylene in decalin with a concentration of 0.05% at 135°C according to ASTM D 4020, and
- (iii) [[(iii)]] include multiple polyethylene sheath filaments in a sheath region thereof and polyethylene sere multiple filaments in a core region thereof, wherein
- the multiple filaments in the sheath and core regions thereof consist of polyethylene with a relative viscosity of more than 5 dl/g as measured on a solution of polyethylene in decalin with a concentration of 0.05% at 135°C according to ASTM D 4020, and wherein such that
- a weight ratio between the <u>multiple sheeth-filaments in the sheath region</u>
  and the <u>multiple sere-filaments in the core region</u> is below 5:1, and
  wherein
- the <u>multiple eere-filaments in the core region</u> show substantially no adhesion to each other, and wherein
- the <u>multiple</u> <del>cheeth</del>-filaments <u>in the sheath region</u> form a substantially nonporous layer around the <u>multiple</u> <del>core</del>-filaments <u>in the core region</u>.

- (original) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the mesh is knitted.
- (currently amended) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the yams have a
  weight ratio between the <u>multiple filaments of the</u> sheath <u>region</u> and the <u>multiple</u>
  <u>filaments of the core region</u> of below 3:1.
- (currently amended) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the varns <del>vern-comprises</del> a medical drug.
- 5.-9. (cancelled)
- (currently amended) Mesh according to claim 1, wherein the <u>multiple filaments of</u> the sheath region <del>filaments are</del> melt-adhered to one another.
- 11. (currently amended) A polyethylene yam comprising:
  - multiple sheath filaments in a sheath region of the varn and multiple core filaments in a core region of the varn, wherein each of the sheath and core filaments consist consists of consists of consists consists
  - the polyethylene sheath filaments and polyethylene core filaments are present in the yarn in a weight ratio of sheath <u>filaments</u> to core filaments of below 5:1. and wherein
  - the core filaments show substantially no adhesion to each other and the sheath filaments form a substantially non-porous layer around the core filaments, and wherein
  - the yarn has a tensile strength of more than 1.0 GPa, determined as specified in ASTM D885M using a nominal gauge length of <u>a fiber</u> the fibre of 500 mm and a crosshead speed of 50%/min.

SNIJDER et al Serial No. 10/537,895 April 8, 2009

- (previously presented) The yarn according to claim 11, wherein the weight ratio
  of the sheath filaments to the core filaments is below 3:1.
- (previously presented) The yam according to claim 11, wherein the weight ratio
  of the sheath filaments to the core filaments is below 2:1.
- (previously presented) The yarn according to claim 11, wherein the sheath filaments are melt-adhered to one another.
- (previously presented) A surgical mesh which includes a yarn according to claim
   11.